

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/759,117	FUJITA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Dalena Tran	3661	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/19/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4-7(now renumbered as 1-4).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ol> |
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### **EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

1. This communication is an Examiner's reasons for allowance in response to application filed on 1/20/04, assigned serial 10/759117 and title "Failure diagnosis method of vehicle communication network".

2. The following is the Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

After carefully reviewing the application and the additional search of all the possible areas relevant to the present application, a set of related prior art references has been found, but those prior art references are not deemed strong to make the application unpatentable. Thus, it is found that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Although the references found disclose several claimed limitations, none of the references discloses a failure diagnosis method of a communication network for a vehicle having an electronic control device provided with a failure diagnosis portion and a plurality of electronic control instruments being connected to a main line of a multiplex communication line comprising the steps of: measuring a main line resistance, wherein the measuring main line resistance includes providing each terminal position of the main line of the multiplex communication line is provided in parallel with terminal resistance, connecting a connector for measurement to the main line of the multiplex communication line via a branch line, measuring the resistance value of the main line resistance via the connector for measurement, and determining, when the resistance value of the main line resistance is a synthetic resistance value when the terminal resistance is connected in parallel either one of that no failure has occurred in

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the main line of the multiplex communication line or the branch line that is connected from the main line to the electronic control instrument are not malfunctioning, and that no failure has occurred in the main line of the communication line, but failure has occurred in the branch line that is connected from the main line of the multiplex communication line to the branch line that is connected to the electronic control instrument. This limitation in combination with the other elements in the claim was not shown or suggested by the prior art.

Claims 1-7, are allowable over the prior art of record.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dalena Tran whose telephone number is 703-308-8223. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30 AM-5:30 PM), off every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Black can be reached on 703-305-8233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner  
Dalena Tran



March 2, 2006

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****U.S. Patent and Trademark Office**

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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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10/159117

EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER
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20060302

DATE MAILED:

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner for Patents**

The drawing filed on 1/20/04, and the replacement sheet of drawing for figure 1 submitted on 6/30/05 have been approved.